

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
**Reporting to Public Session Tuesday, February 10, 2015**

**1. Lunar New Year Celebration – District Mandarin Language Arts Program**

The Mandarin Language Arts Program at Forest Grove is into its fifth year with students enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 4. The core curriculum is taught in English, with Mandarin Language learning threaded through song, stories and play. Students are acquiring skills in Mandarin oral communication and basic reading and writing in Simplified Chinese. Students in the program also have the opportunity to celebrate and appreciate an additional language and the cultural benefits.

On February 19, Forest Grove Elementary will host an assembly to celebrate Lunar New Year. Guests, parents and students are invited to see both the Mandarin and English programs share a traditional performance.

This evening, Director of Instruction Wanda Mitchell and Forest Grove Principal Al Post will provide an overview of the program and a summary of tonight's performance. Teachers, Deborah Tang and Jaimie Li along with students from the Mandarin Kindergarten and grade 1 classes will perform in celebration of Lunar New Year, the Year of the Sheep.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.

**2. Stronger Together Aboriginal Education Inquiry Team**

The Stronger Together Aboriginal Education Inquiry Team is a group of classroom teachers that meet throughout the year in a learning team model to investigate how they can incorporate Aboriginal worldview and perspectives into their classroom experience.

The learning team's foundational belief is that a classroom experience that incorporates Aboriginal worldview and perspective will benefit not only our Aboriginal students, but all students in the classroom. Participants engage in thinking around Aboriginal worldview, with discussions led by Elders and District Aboriginal Education staff, as well as engage in a book club featuring Aboriginal literature. Learning team members are encouraged to find ways of incorporating Aboriginal worldview and perspective into their classroom and share their experiences through the Aboriginal Education blog.

Tonight, Learning Team, District Vice-Principal of Aboriginal Education Brandon Curr, District Literacy Consultant Ben Pare and Byrne Creek Teacher Denise Ferreira will provide an overview of their work to date and its transformation into the classroom.

Recommendation: THAT the Board receive this information.